

Appl. No. 10/506,621
Amdt. Dated July 19, 2007
Reply to Office Action of April 19, 2007

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A battery apparatus comprising: ~~a battery unit containing power generating element, a battery storage having a frame comprising two pairs of parallel edge portions adjoined to one another and that defines a storage portion within the frame in which said a battery unit is stored, the storage portion also having open upper and lower regions, and~~

~~a first lid that closes an end of an opening of one of the upper and lower open regions of said storage portion of said battery storage,~~

~~wherein said first lid is capable of being engaged with said battery storage frame, and~~

~~a first fixing means for fixing the first lid to the battery storage frame is provided on an inner side surface of the frame facing the battery unit storage portion~~

~~a second lid that closes the other of the upper and lower open regions of said storage portion,~~

~~wherein said second lid is capable of being engaged with said battery frame, and~~

~~a second fixing means for fixing the second lid to the batter frame is provided on an inner side surface of the frame facing the battery unit storage portion, the second fixing means being offset in a lateral direction of the frame from the first fixing means.~~

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The battery apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first fixing means is formed of a convex portion provided on one of said battery storage and said lid, and a concave portion that is provided on the other and is capable of being engaged with said convex portion.

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3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The battery apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said battery storage is formed of synthetic resin or metal, and said lid is formed of metal.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The battery apparatus according to claim [[4]] 2, wherein said second fixing means is formed of a convex portion provided on one of said ~~flame~~ frame and said closing unit, and a concave portion that is provided on the other and is capable of being engaged with said convex portion.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The battery apparatus according to claim [[4]] 5, wherein a plurality of fixing pieces are respectively provided on each of said ~~closing unit~~ first and ~~said second lids~~ lid to be disposed such as meshed with each other in the state where the ~~closing unit and the lid~~ first and second lids are being engaged with said ~~flame~~ frame, and in each of said plurality of fixing pieces a concave portion or a convex portion is provided to be engaged with the convex portion or the concave portion provided on said ~~flame~~ frame.

7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The battery apparatus according to claim [[4]] 5, wherein said ~~flame~~ frame is formed of synthetic resin or metal, and said closing unit is formed of metal.

8. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The battery apparatus according to claim 1 or 4, wherein in said battery storage area a pair of supporting portions are provided that support the both ends of a circuit substrate of a control circuit for controlling said power-generating element in said battery unit ~~is provided~~, and on both the top and bottom surfaces of said circuit substrate supported by the pair of supporting portions, electronic components constituting said control circuit are mounted.

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Please add the following new claims:

9. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first and second fixing means are comprised of protrusions extending from the inner side surfaces of the frame towards the battery unit storage portion, the protrusions providing a slot into which a portion of the first and second lids can be inserted into, and corresponding engaging hooks formed in a vertical direction of the frame beyond the protrusions, which thereby fix the respective first and second lids to the frame.

10. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the protrusions and engaging hooks for providing attachment of the first lid and the protrusions and engaging hooks for providing attachment of the second lid are formed in an alternating fashion around the inner diameter of the frame.

11. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the protrusions for providing a slot for the first lid are formed closer to one of the upper and lower open surfaces of said storage portion than a mid-point of the frame, and the protrusions for providing a slot for the second lid are formed closer to the other of the upper and lower open surfaces of said storage portion than a mid-point of the frame.

12. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of said frame, said upper lid, and said lower lid are formed in an arched-shape.

13. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said battery unit is formed in an arched-shape.

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14. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 3, wherein each of said frame, said upper lid, and said lower lid are formed in an arched-shape.
15. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said battery unit is formed in an arched-shape.
16. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 7, wherein each of said frame, said upper lid, and said lower lid are formed in an arched-shape.
17. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said battery unit is formed in an arched-shape.
18. (New) The battery apparatus according to claim 6, wherein each of said fixing pieces are comprised of a cut-out portion of the respective upper or lower lid in which three other sides than the end side are cut out in a U-shape, and the free end of the cut-out portion is bent toward the inside.